



July 17, 2025

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario

The Honourable Rob Flack  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Dear Premier Ford and Minister Flack:

**Re: Town of Aurora Council Resolution of June 24, 2025  
Member Motion 7.2 - Councillor Weese; Re: Opposition to Bill 17, *Protect Ontario  
by Building Faster and Smarter Act*, 2025**

Please be advised that this matter was considered by Council at its special meeting held on July 15, 2025, and in this regard, Council adopted the following resolution:

**Whereas Ontario Bill 17 (the legislation) was granted Royal Assent on June 5, 2025;  
and**

**Whereas the legislation raises significant concerns related to democratic  
governance, environmental sustainability, municipal autonomy, and social equity;  
and**


**Whereas the legislation centralizes decision-making authority and reduces the  
power of local municipalities in planning and development approvals; and**

**Whereas the legislation curtails public consultation rights, limiting residents' ability  
to influence projects impacting their neighbourhoods; and**

**Whereas the legislation accelerates approvals by reducing time for environmental  
assessments, heritage evaluations, and public safety considerations that could  
result in substandard buildings, strained infrastructure and negative long-term  
effects on communities; and**

**Whereas the legislation threatens green spaces, natural habitats, and water  
resources overlooking careful measures that allows sustainable growth and  
undermines Ontario's commitment to environmental stewardship; and**

**Whereas the legislation limits public hearings and community engagement  
opportunities, which increases the risk of corruption, favouritism and poor local  
planning decisions;**

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	July 21, 2025 1:25 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

Legislative Services  
Ishita Soneji  
905-726-4768  
clerks@aurora.ca

Town of Aurora  
100 John West Way, Box 1000  
Aurora, ON L4G 6J1

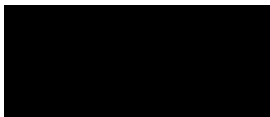
**Delivered by email**  
premier@ontario.ca

minister.mah@ontario.ca

1. **Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That Aurora Town Council recognizes the intent of Ontario Bill 17 to streamline housing and infrastructure development; however, expresses significant concerns with Ontario Bill 17 in its current form, and recommends:**
  - **Restoring municipal autonomy, and ensuring meaningful consultation and decision-making power;**
  - **Maintaining rigorous environmental, safety, and heritage assessments despite expedited timelines;**
  - **Incorporating clear affordable housing requirements within new developments;**
  - **Enhancing transparency, public engagement and accountability mechanisms;**
  - **Ensuring climate change mitigation is included in all development projects; and**
2. **Be It Further Resolved That this Motion be forwarded to all 444 Ontario Municipalities, Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, and Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).**

The above is for your consideration and any attention deemed necessary.

Sincerely,



Ishita Soneji

Deputy Town Clerk

The Corporation of the Town of Aurora

IS/lb

Attachment (Council meeting extract)

Copy: Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

All Ontario Municipalities



## 7. Consideration of Items Requiring Discussion

### 7.2 Member Motion - Councillor Weese; Re: Opposition to Bill 17, *Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025*

#### **Main motion as amended**

**Moved by** Councillor Weese

**Seconded by** Councillor Gallo

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Whereas the legislation raises significant concerns related to democratic governance, environmental sustainability, municipal autonomy, and social equity; and

Whereas the legislation centralizes decision-making authority and reduces the power of local municipalities in planning and development approvals; and

Whereas the legislation curtails public consultation rights, limiting residents' ability to influence projects impacting their neighbourhoods; and

Whereas the legislation accelerates approvals by reducing time for environmental assessments, heritage evaluations, and public safety considerations that could result in substandard buildings, strained infrastructure and negative long-term effects on communities; and

Whereas the legislation threatens green spaces, natural habitats, and water resources overlooking careful measures that allows sustainable growth and undermines Ontario's commitment to environmental stewardship; and

Whereas the legislation limits public hearings and community engagement opportunities, which increases the risk of corruption, favouritism and poor local planning decisions;

1. Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That Aurora Town Council recognizes the intent of Ontario Bill 17 to streamline housing and

infrastructure development; however, expresses significant concerns with Ontario Bill 17 in its current form, and recommends:

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- Incorporating clear affordable housing requirements within new developments;
- Enhancing transparency, public engagement and accountability mechanisms;
- Ensuring climate change mitigation is included in all development projects; and

2. Be It Further Resolved That this Motion be forwarded to all 444 Ontario Municipalities, Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, and Hon. Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Yeas (4): Councillor Weese, Councillor Gilliland, Councillor Gaertner, and Councillor Gallo

Absent (3): Mayor Mrakas, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Kim

**Carried (4 to 0)**